

*Contact Jim Hubbard  
(202) 225-2671*

(Washington, DC) -- Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3) released the following statement in response to President Barack Obama's decision to lift restrictions on human embryonic stem cell research. President Obama is leaving the decision to federally fund human embryonic stem cell research to the Congress.

**"I am encouraged by the continued progress both in the fields of embryonic stem cell research and adult stem cell research. □ For America to remain the global leader in research and development we must do more to invest in science and technology.**

**"I applaud President Barack Obama's decision to lift restrictions for human embryonic stem cell research.□ Many thoughtful and decent people are conflicted about, or strongly oppose, this research. □ However, I and the majority of Americans falling across the political spectrum and from diverse backgrounds support this promising research.□ Many scientists believe that responsible human embryonic stem cells could lead to new therapies to treat and cure life-altering diseases like Parkinson's and paralysis.**

**"I support strong federal leadership by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in carrying out a continued ethical stem cell research program in order to realize the full potential for stem cell therapies.□ I am hopeful Congress will soon bring America back to the forefront of stem cell research worldwide."**

### **-- Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3)**

Congressman Carnahan is a co-sponsor of The Stem Cell Research Improvement Act of 2009 (H.R. 872) which would federally fund some human embryonic stem cell research under the strictest ethical guidelines.

As a member of the Science and Technology Committee and the bipartisan whip team, Carnahan played an integral role in passing the original Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, which included strict ethical standards in providing federal funding for embryonic stem cell research.